

The Utah Upland Game Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2005

Opening

A meeting of the Utah Upland Game Advisory Committee was held on this date.

Present:

Gaskill, Jim (Chair)
Gaskill, Steve
Mitchell, Dean (DWR Upland Game Program Coordinator)
Perkins, Ernie
Potts, Dan
Proctor, Travis
Staley, John
Sorenson, Ryan
Ballantyne, Todd
Townsend, Brad
Gaskill, Newton
Larsen, Randy

Old Business

Youth Chukar Hunt Report

- Discussed safety concerns, including adult to shooter ratio (1:1 is preferable)
- Same date for next year
- Reduce structure, let the birds and kids loose
- Site by site evaluation of needs

Upland Game Survey

- 1500 surveys are ready for mailing and should go out around December 15, 2005.
- Results should come in June 2006.

Youth Pheasant Hunt Report

- Because of high cover, "no hunt zones" were used in the north hunts
- The central hunts went well
- Carr Fork hunt was not as safe as desired, had to rework hunter distribution

Upland Game Master Plan

- The Board deferred one month to review

New Business

Funding Recommendations

- Habitat Council funding for upland game
- List of "Brag Projects":
 - Reseeding sharptail leks
 - Guzzler crew
 - Sagebrush seeding

Changes in Minimum Hunting Age

- Eliminate a minimum age for small game hunters
- Reduce minimum age to 12 years for big game hunters
- Ernie Perkins will draft endorsement letters

Pheasant and Grouse Hunt Reports

- Forest grouse coveys were sporadic
- No complaints on sage grouse—numbers were high in Wyoming
- Sharpies were spread out
- Pheasants in good numbers
- There are lots of rabbits

Chukar Study Update

- Randy Larsen presented an update on the chukar study progress

Habitat Stamp Issues

- Waterfowl stamp was discussed
- Discussion of license fees, need for public education
- Preference expressed for increased license fees

Upland Game on the Internet

You can get more Utah upland game information at <http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/uplandgame/> including the past minutes for this committee, news, proclamations, and information about upcoming public meetings.

Agenda for Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2006 at 6:00 P.M. at the DWR State Office at 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month unless otherwise agreed upon.

The agenda will include revisiting proclamation issues and a discussion of a dedicated upland hunter proposal.

Everyone is invited to attend these meetings; it's an opportunity to get any issues you know about onto the table.

Let us know of donations, projects, etc., made by your group – we want to publicize good activities!

If you know of other interested parties who should get copies of the minutes, and who are involved in upland game organizations or programs, please get us their name. If you want to make an e-mail input, please send it to:

Dean Mitchell deanmitchell@utah.gov Ryan Sorensen ryan@mybirddog.com Jim Gaskill jhgaskill@weber.edu

Respectfully submitted ...
Steven Gaskill